

of us who are serving, “Go get it fixed.” And I’m fully prepared to help in the process. I put forth ideas to move the process along. Anybody who has got a good idea, bring it forward. And then we’ll be able to say, when we solve it, “We did our duty for a generation of Americans coming up.”

Thanks for giving us a chance to visit with you. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:29 a.m. at the James Lee Community Center. In his remarks, he referred to Patricia D. Franckewitz, director, Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services; Joyce White, director, James Lee Community Center; and Richard Parsons, Cochair, President’s Commission to Strengthen Social Security.

Remarks at a Tree Planting Ceremony in Honor of Arbor Day April 29, 2005

The President. Glad you all are here. Ready, Mr. Secretary?

Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns. I’m ready.

The President. First of all, I’m honored—we’re honored to be here with the Secretary of Agriculture as well as Marshal Case, who is head of The American Chestnut Foundation. We are planting an American chestnut tree here at the White House. This is the 133d year of Arbor Day. Our message is to our fellow citizens: Plant trees. It’s good for the economy, and it’s good for the environment.

As well, Marshal informs me that The American Chestnut Foundation has worked very closely with the Agriculture Department to coming up with a disease-resistant strain of the American chestnut. And he says we’re making good progress and that

one day the American chestnut, which had been wiped out by blight, will be coming back. And this is our little part to help it come back.

So, Mr. Secretary, are you prepared?

Secretary Johanns. I am ready. Let’s—

The President. A man known for shoveling a lot of things. [*Laughter*]

Secretary Johanns. Exactly.

The President. Ready to go?

Secretary Johanns. Yes, I am ready.

The President. All right, let’s do it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1 p.m. on the North Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Marshal T. Case, president and chief executive officer, The American Chestnut Foundation. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Apr. 29 / Administration of George W. Bush, 2005

Memorandum on Redesignation of the United States Naval Reserve to the United States Navy Reserve

April 29, 2005

Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense

Subject: Redesignation of the United States Naval Reserve to the United States Navy Reserve

Pursuant to the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (Public Law 108–375), I approve

the redesignation of the United States Naval Reserve to the United States Navy Reserve.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Memorandum on Vesting of Blocked Funds of the Government of Cuba

April 29, 2005

Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury

Subject: Vesting of Blocked Funds of the Government of Cuba

Pursuant to section 2002 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000, Public Law 106–386, as amended by section 201 of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, Public Law 107–297, I hereby determine that the blocked funds of the Government of Cuba held at JP Morgan Chase in the account titled “Taxes

Owed by CATT to the Government of Cuba,” shall be vested and distributed to Ana Margarita Martinez. The funds amount to approximately \$198,000.

I therefore direct you to vest these funds and distribute them to Ana Margarita Martinez.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Providing Notification of Reimbursement to the District of Columbia for Emergency Planning and Security Costs

April 29, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Consistent with title I of the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2005, Public Law 108–335, I am notifying the Congress of the proposed use of \$2,471,588 provided in title I under the heading “Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs in the District of Columbia.” This

will reimburse the District for the costs of public safety expenses related to security events and responses to terrorist threats.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH